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## Benefits of Artsonia

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Artsonia, the world's largest online student art museum, offers a free, educational program to schools, teachers and parents. Each year, thousands of art teachers nationwide showcase their students' artwork online at [www.artsonia.com](http://www.artsonia.com).

Founded over 15 years ago, Artsonia has been recognized with the national distinguished service award for outstanding contribution to the arts by the National Art Education Association (NAEA), as well as the distinguished service award by the state art associations in New Jersey, Illinois, Michigan and Colorado.

Participating in Artsonia provides many benefits to schools, teachers, students and parents:

- **Increase Awareness of Visual Arts Curriculum:** Parents and family members are notified when new artwork is available, and are invited to browse the school gallery. This enables teachers to explain what the student learned and what methods were used in the art creation process.
- **Digital Student Portfolios:** As the teacher publishes the student artwork to the online school gallery, a digital portfolio of each individual student's work is also being created. This provides a wonderful way to show growth across multiple school years for an artist.
- **Boost Student Pride and Self-Esteem:** Once artwork is posted online, parents and family members are encouraged to leave a positive comment for the artist. These comments boost students' self-confidence and self-esteem in their artistic ability. Please note the comments are pre-approved by parents prior to posting alongside the artwork.
- **Language Arts Integration:** Participating students write individual artist statements, which are posted alongside their artwork. This promotes literacy within the art room and enables teachers to capture students' thoughts and feelings during the art creation process.
- **Integrate Technology in the Classroom:** Artsonia takes technology in the artroom to a new level. Through the use of computers as well as iPads and other such devices, both teachers and students can actively engage in the online art gallery activities. Teachers

have tools to monitor, assess and provide feedback on artwork online. Students have the ability to submit artwork, post artist statements, constructively comment on peer galleries and monitor their own progress through their personal online gallery. All these activities are available within the safe, educational environment of Artsonia.com.

- **Feedback Channel for Parents:** As student digital portfolios are automatically created throughout the school year, teachers are able to provide feedback directly to the parents about his/her child's specific needs or achievements. This feedback is only viewable by parents, students and teachers, and provide an excellent way for teachers to communicate directly to parents in the context of their child's specific artwork.
- **Financial Support for Art Program:** After the student artwork is published online, the parents and family may purchase keepsakes from the museum with the child's artwork imprinted on it, and 20% of the revenue is donated back to the school art program.
- **Honors for Art Program:** Artsonia works hard to bring art programs into the local spotlight and to recognize the accomplishments and efforts of our teachers. Administrators are also notified of such accomplishments and encouraged to browse the school gallery, which highlights the richness of their art program.
- **Enrichment of School Art Program:** Participating teachers can post lesson plans on Artsonia, providing a wonderful resource for art educators looking for ideas and inspiration. This resource helps teachers keep school art programs on the cutting edge of quality, cross-curriculum art instruction.

We welcome you and your school to join our rapidly growing list of schools from all over the world. See firsthand the power of Artsonia and its ability to make a positive change in your students' lives.

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## Artsonia: Important Question and Answers

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When deciding whether or not to participate in Artsonia, there are many questions that are commonly asked by administrative officials. Below are the most popular ones.

**1. Do teachers need to get parental permission to publish their students' artwork?**

Yes. Parents need to register to provide permission for their child's artwork to be displayed on the public gallery. Artsonia offers several simple tools to assist teachers in the parent registration process.

Note: The permission given when parents register on Artsonia is applicable for the tenure of the student's attendance at the school, so once the parent gives permission, the teacher can continue to build the student digital portfolio in future school years.

**2. How do you ensure privacy for young students?**

On the Artsonia website, each student is identified only by a "screenname" which is usually the student's first name and number (e.g., Sarah22). Last names are not publicly posted on the website. Additionally, all comments are pre-approved by the registered parent before being posted for the artist, and all artist statements are approved by the teacher prior to being posted.

**3. Who owns the copyright of the artwork submitted?**

Artists retain ownership of their artwork. However, when the parent registers on our website, they grant Artsonia the right and license to, among other things, publish the artwork in the museum, on merchandise, and on Artsonia promotional material. Artsonia will always remove any artwork from its website upon request. For full details, see our Terms and Conditions at [www.artsonia.com/terms.asp](http://www.artsonia.com/terms.asp).

**4. Are there any advertising / banner ads?**

NO! As an educational website, we do NOT use any banner advertising nor any solicitation of students by any third parties through our website.

**5. How long will the artwork be published?**

Artwork may remain published on the website until either the registered parent or the school chooses to remove it.

**6. How much does the Artsonia program cost?**

FREE. Teachers and schools can publish any amount of artwork at no cost. The custom keepsakes sold with the students' artwork imprinted on it supports the school as a fundraiser (the 20% donation to the arts program) and also supports the Artsonia museum. There is no obligation for parents and families to purchase keepsakes.

If there are still unanswered questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are always here to help make our parents, teachers and school administrators feel comfortable with Artsonia. Our contact information is [info@artsonia.com](mailto:info@artsonia.com) and 800-869-9974.

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## Artsonia: Feedback from current users

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Below are some teacher quotes after their experiences with Artsonia:

- Artsonia has saved many an art position due to the positive comments the schools receive from parents. This is my first year at this school and my principal is speechless when she sees what the children can do and is flooded daily with positive comments from parents about the new art program - *Carol Ann Hough, Milken National Educator, Hinesville, GA*
- I want to take this time to tell you how wonderful my experience with Artsonia has been. I have 3 schools I manage and I have had fabulous response from parents who've viewed the sites. The kids are thoroughly excited to have their art on the on-line galleries and friends and family have left numerous comments for their young artist friends – *Lisa Lathrop, Minot Area Council of the Arts, St. Leo's School, Minot, ND*
- I can't even begin to tell you how much my students, parents, grandparents, community and I have enjoyed Artsonia! It is responsible for breathing new life into this 26 year veteran teacher! – *Barbara Henson, Stockton Schools, Stockton, KS*
- I love Artsonia and kids and parents have come to love it too! It is a wonderful tool for the teacher and a great self-esteem builder and of course last but not least it has been know to make the buttons pop right off the chest of some parents! LOL – *Connie Benedict, Miami Will Rogers Middle School, Miami, OK*